



INSIDE GARDNER

Your Community

November - December 2014

Utility Billing Information

The City of Gardner's Utility Billing Division prides itself on providing quality customer service. They offer both quick and easy online support at www.gardnerkansas.gov or face-to-face interaction at City Hall.

The Utility Billing Division maintains approximately 7,600 active utility accounts, and the Meter Reader/Technicians read over 16,000 meters per month and walk an average of 12 miles a day. Each month the number on the meter is recorded by the meter reader into an electronic handheld device and submitted to the Utility Billing staff, where the meter readings are processed to compare to the previous month's reading. The difference between the two numbers is how much has been used since the last reading, and how much to bill the customer.

Staff works hard to obtain an accurate reading from your meters each and every billing period. However, on occasion, we may not be able to obtain a reading. If a customer's meter reading is estimated, an "E" will appear on the right-hand side of the bill under the Current Meter Information behind the meter number. This may occur due to weather conditions, staffing resources, or a meter that is inaccessible.

In such cases, the customer's consumption for the billing period is estimated using a standardized method. The estimate is derived using a number of customer consumption factors to make the estimate as fair and accurate as possible. Although no estimate will be 100 percent correct, staff uses the best information available to ensure the estimate is as close as possible to the customer's actual consumption for that period. In addition, the usage will be reconciled with the next on-site read to the previous month's estimated read.

The City Council approved rate changes for water and wastewater at the August 18, 2014 meeting. For usage in January 2015, wastewater rates will increase 4% and water rates will increase 8%. These changes will be reflected in your statement starting February 2015.

Utility Billing Customer Service

Hours: Monday through Friday
7:30 AM to 5:30 PM

Phone: (913) 856-7535

www.gardnerkansas.gov/utility_billing



1 For More Information
Contact us at the address and phone numbers listed here

2 Customer Name and Address

3 12 Month Usage Graph
See your usage throughout the year!

4 Special Message
Important messages about your account will appear here.

5 Payment Coupon
Please tear off and remit this coupon with your payment in the envelope provided.

6 Account Information
Including Account Number, Service Period and Service Address

7 Due Date

8 Meter Activity
Specifies current meter usage

9 Detailed Charges
Shows charges for services

10 Amount Due
Shows Total amount due by the due Date specified.

11 Remit Address
When sending payment, this address must appear through the window of the return envelope.

GARDNER KANSAS
Utility Billing Office
P.O. Box 347
Gardner, KS 66030

For inquiries call:
Utility Billing - (913) 856-7535
Office Hours: 7:30 am - 5:30 pm, Monday - Friday

Account Statement

ACCOUNT: 1234 5678
SERVICE ADDRESS: 1234 MAIN STREET
CYCLE-ROUTE: 01-11
SERVICE PERIOD: 10/28/2002 TO: 11/28/2002
BILLING DATE: 11/28/2002
DUE DATE: 12/17/2002

CURRENT METER INFORMATION

Meter	Service Type	Previous	Current	Consumption
123456789	EL	607735	627878	201400.00
987654321	WA	3079	3076	63.00

ACCOUNT ACTIVITY

LAST BILL	10.00
TOTAL PAID SINCE LAST BILL	11.00
LATE CHARGE	1.00
BALANCE FORWARD	24.00

NEW CHARGES

WATER	200.00
SEWER	250.00
ELECTRIC	200.00
SALES TAX	70.00
TOTAL NEW CHARGES	1220.00
ADJUSTMENTS	.00
ACCOUNT BALANCE	1220.00
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE BY 12/17/02	1220.00

YOUR MONTHLY USAGE

12 MONTH HISTORY - ELECTRIC

12 MONTH HISTORY - WATER

SPECIAL MESSAGE

THANK YOU!!!

Payment Coupon

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BILLING DATE: 11/28/2002
DUE DATE: 12/17/2002

JOHN Q SAMPLE
1234 MAIN STREET
GARDNER KS 66030-0347

AMOUNT DUE

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE BY 12/17/2002 1220.00

AMOUNT ENCLOSED

REMIT PAYMENT TO:

7960434791/
CITY OF GARDNER
P.O. BOX 347
GARDNER KS 66030-0347

123400005678900000122000

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A newsletter published for the residents of
the City of Gardner
City Hall • 120 E. Main St.
Gardner, KS 66030 • (913) 856-0939

Mayor's Message to Gardner Residents



Season's greetings fellow citizens,

The holiday season is again approaching fast, and wow, where has the time gone? As I write this message, the Kansas City Royals are on their way to the World Series for the first time in nearly three decades. I hope they give everyone in the Kansas City metro area an early present.

As Fall turns to Winter in Gardner, we embrace the holidays as a time of joy, goodwill and giving. On Monday December 1st (after a suitable interval to recover from Thanksgiving feasting and Black Friday shopping) we will kick off the holiday season with our annual "Christmas in the Park" celebration. Please bring the family and join your friends and neighbors at Cornerstone Park to sing carols with scores of students from our school district. Watch anxiously as we countdown the park lighting festivities, and welcome a very special guest for our youngsters for the 24th straight year.

This year the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund will again be supporting the efforts of the "Christmas for Children" program. For the fifth straight year, our citizens will show how they understand and appreciate the spirit of giving, and we look forward to making the holidays bright for all our residents through the generosity of those who live and work in and around Gardner.

With the New Year on the horizon, it is with pride and humility that I look back on the many blessings we have enjoyed in Gardner in 2014. It's been a great year and it's a great time to live in Gardner, Kansas. I feel blessed that my family and I live in a community that is so warm and wonderful, compassionate and thoughtful, and filled with such devotion to the welfare of others. I pray every member of our community enjoys a safe and joyous Christmas day, holiday season and a Happy New Year in 2015.

Best regards and may you all have a blessed holiday season,

Calendar of Meetings

Nov 3	City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
Nov 6	Electric Utility Advisory Board Meeting - 7:00 PM
Nov 11	City Hall CLOSED in observance of Veterans Day
Nov 13	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting - 6:30 PM
Nov 17	City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
Nov 18	Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 PM
Nov 27-28	City Hall CLOSED in observance of Thanksgiving
Dec 1	Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony - Celebration Park
Dec 2	City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM (Tuesday due to Tree Lighting Ceremony)
Dec 4	Electric Utility Advisory Board Meeting - 7:00 PM
Dec 15	City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
Dec 16	Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 PM
Dec 24-25	City Hall CLOSED in observance of Christmas

Gardner City Council

Chris Morrow, Mayor

913-269-8495 (Cell)
cmorrow@gardnerkansas.gov

Kristy Harrison, Council President

913-884-2115 (Home)
kharrison@gardnerkansas.gov

Heath Freeman, Council Member

913-908-2627 (Cell)
hfreeman@gardnerkansas.gov

Tory Roberts, Council Member

913-449-5522 (Cell)
troberts@gardnerkansas.gov

Steve Shute, Council Member

913-938-6887 (Cell)
sshute@gardnerkansas.gov

**Messages may also be left for any
Council Member or the Mayor at
913-856-0939**

City Management

City Administrator

Cheryl Harrison-Lee

charrison-lee@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-0939

Finance Director

Laura Gourley

lgourley@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-7535

Parks & Recreation Director

Jeff Stewart

jstewart@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-0936

Acting Police Captain

James Belcher, Jr.

jbelcher@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-7312

Public Works Director

Brian Faust

bfaust@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-0914

Items of Note, Project Updates & Community Information

Public Works...Working For You - Snow Removal



Weather extremes and changes bring significant challenges to the Public Works employees who are responsible for making sure your streets are usable in the winter months.

The City's snow removal program is designed to utilize our available resources effectively and economically, including

long labor hours, special equipment, and chemicals such as salt and calcium chloride. Our snow and ice policy is intended to keep vehicular traffic moving at a safe and constant speed.

When a storm is forecast, the Public Works staff formulates a plan of action that takes into account the time of day, type of weather, temperature, wind, expected length of the storm, etc. If ice or only light snow occurs (less than 2"), and plowing is not required, City trucks will spot-treat with materials only.

The City reminds residents to remove parked vehicles from the roadway when snow is predicted. Snow removal is more thoroughly accomplished if vehicles and other equipment are removed from the curb.

The City is divided into four (4) quadrants, with four (4) levels of snow treatment/removal:

Priority 1

Thoroughfare & Arterial Roads: plowed by single-axle dump trucks continuously during snowfall

Priority 2

Collector & Main-line Residential Roads: plowed by single-axle dump trucks continuously during snowfall

Priority 3

Local Residential Streets: plowed after Priority 2 is completed, beginning after snowfall ends

Priority 4

Cul-de-sacs: plowed after snowfall and after Priority 2 and 3 streets are cleared.

Please note that private streets are maintained by applicable property owners. In addition, the owner and/or occupant of property abutting the public sidewalk is responsible for removing snow and ice from the sidewalk.

For more information, please contact the Streets Division at (913) 856-0922 or visit www.gardnerkansas.gov/snow_ice_removal/.

Christmas in the Park

The 24th Annual "Christmas in the Park" holiday event kicks off with the Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Monday, December 1, 2014, at Cornerstone Park. Seasonal music will be performed by area school children. The event will include a message from Mayor Chris Morrow, as well as a visit from Santa himself. One lucky individual will be selected to flip the switch that turns on thousands of beautiful lights throughout Cornerstone. To cap the festivities, Santa's Workshop will open to all boys and girls who wish to see Santa and Mrs. Claus and their elves in action!



Santa's Workshop

Moms and Dads, bring the whole family to this place full of holiday joy! Children will have the opportunity to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus and share their Christmas wishes, see the elves in action and receive a commemorative ornament and candy cane. Santa's Workshop will open immediately following the Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and will re-open for the following dates: December 7th and 14th.

Upcoming Parks and Recreation Activities and Events

Youth Programs	Date	Registration Deadline	Age/Grade	Costs
Christmas in the Park	December 1	N/A	Any	Free
Santa's Workshop	Dec. 1, 7, 14	N/A	Any	Free
Karate for Kids	Dec. 1 to Dec. 27	November 24	6 to 12 years	\$40
Tiny Tigers Tae Kwon Do	Dec. 2 to Dec. 27	November 24	3 to 6 years	\$40
Breaking Barriers Martial Arts	Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27	December 4	Any	\$35
Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt	December 12	December 11	2 to 10 years	\$ 3
Breakfast at the North Pole	December 13	N/A	Any	\$ 5 - City Hall \$ 6 - At the Door
Jingle Bell Shop	December 14	December 12	3 to 12 years	\$ 3 + items at event
Little Ballers Basketball	January to February	November 21	Preschool to Grade 1	\$50
Adult / Family Programs	Date	Registration Deadline	Age/Grade	Costs
Snow Sculpture Contest	Nov. to Mar. 31	N/A	Any	Free
Women's Basketball	January 11	January 2	18 and older	\$350
Men's Basketball	January 7	January 2	18 and older	\$350
Saved Greetings	January 9	January 7	18 and older	\$ 6

Additional program information can be found by visiting www.gardnerkansas.gov/programs_activities/.

POSTAL PATRON GARDNER, KS 66030

Crosswalk and Sidewalk Improvements



Staff has been working to improve many areas of the City to increase pedestrian safety and access for all residents. Beginning in 2013, improvements were made to existing intersections, including ramp and sidewalk replacements.

In 2014, improvements began at the Brittany Court crosswalk, located in the 200 block of North Center, which included a reduced speed limit, increased signage, and plans to relocate the current crosswalk and construct additional sidewalks in the area.

In addition, current and future public infrastructure projects are being designed using Public Right of Way Accessibility Guidelines, and the City has applied for CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funding for use in 2015 for ADA sidewalk and ramp improvements in the downtown area.

2014 Snow and Equipment Expo

Staff from Public Works competed in the APWA Snow and Equipment Expo. The expo provides training to operators, promotes safe equipment operation and skill enhancement through individual competition, and introduces the latest construction materials, equipment and techniques.

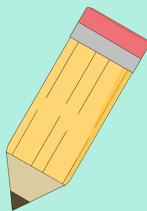


Happening at the Gardner Library

Creation Exploration - Drawing

Thursday, November 6th - 7:00 to 8:00 PM

Bring the whole family and, side by side, discover how to use pencils, charcoal and paper to create works of art. Experimentation is encouraged and all skill levels are welcome. Wear your artist's clothing just in case. Registration is not necessary.



Science Kicks for Birth to Six

Wednesday, November 19th - 7:00 to 7:30 PM

Read, play, observe, experiment, and repeat! Make the rounds through the multiple activity stations and find something that intrigues and inspires your preschooler. Fizzy fun guaranteed! Best for ages birth to six but everyone welcome.

To learn more, visit the Gardner Library or www.jocolibrary.org.

Officers Receive Bronze Award for Valor

The Gardner Police Department is proud to announce Sergeant Steve Benz and Officer Cody Waggoner as recipients of the "Bronze Award for Valor" from the Kansas City Metro Chiefs and Sheriffs Association.

Recipients of the "Bronze award for Valor" are recognized for their level of professionalism and commitment above and beyond the normal call of service. The officers were nominated for their response to a call on March 19, 2014 where they responded to a call of a physical disturbance. Once on scene, the officers were confronted by a man armed with a knife, and successfully took the man into custody without harm coming to either the officers or the suspect.



The officers will receive their awards at a formal ceremony to be held on November 21, 2014.

Acting Captain Belcher notes, "We are proud of these officers, their action and their heroism in a dangerous situation. Their quick action prevented a dangerous situation from becoming a tragic one. Please join me in congratulating them in their accomplishment."

Veteran's Day Parade

Join the City of Gardner for the Veteran's Day Parade on Tuesday, November 11th.

The parade will begin at 10:00 AM at 147 West Cherokee and will head east on 183rd Street and then north on Center Street, ending at Veteran's Park. Gardner Police will provide traffic control, including temporary closing of connecting residential streets, while the parade is in progress.

Handicapped parking will be available at Veteran's Park and general parking will be permitted along residential streets and at Calvary Southern Baptist Church located south of the park.



Gardner Welcomes New Business



The City of Gardner welcomes new business Xtreme Kupcakes! Now open 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM Tuesday to Saturday, located at 133 E. Main St. (next door to the Gardner HealthMart Pharmacy).